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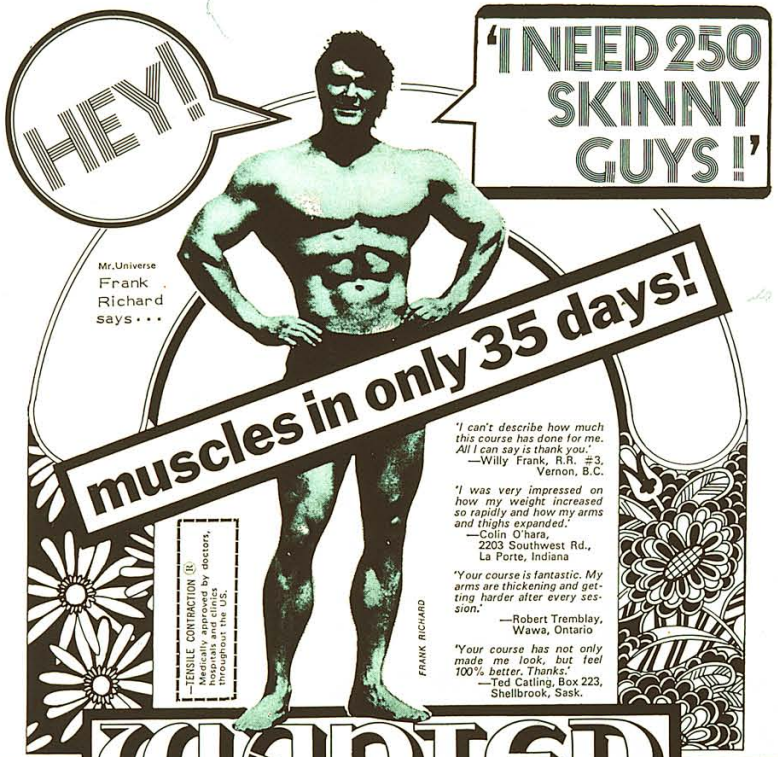

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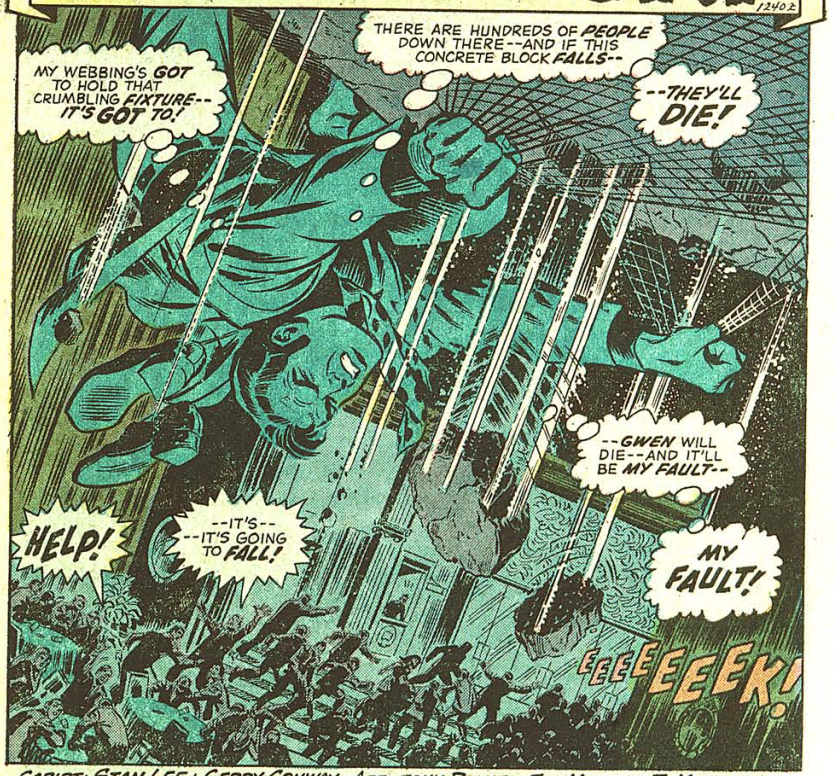

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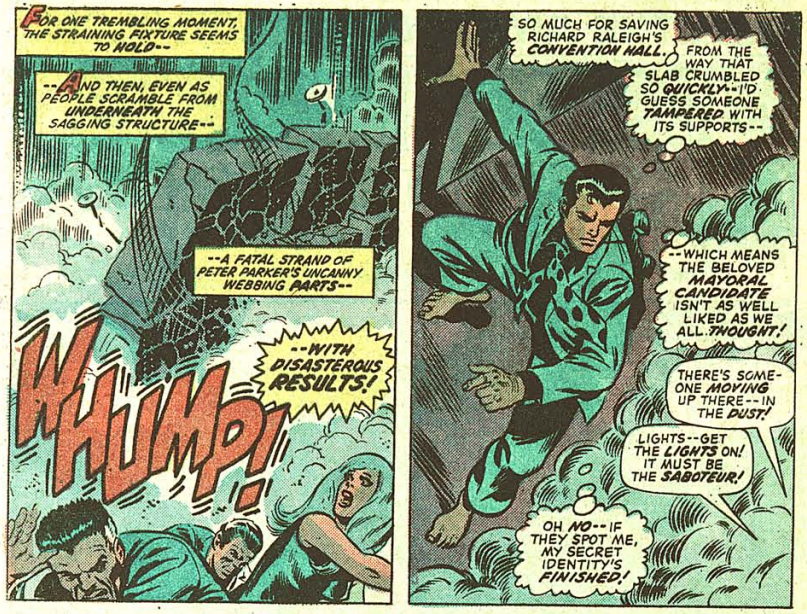

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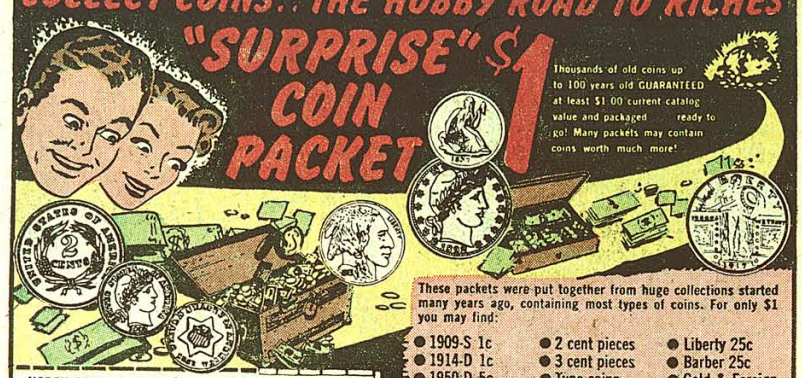

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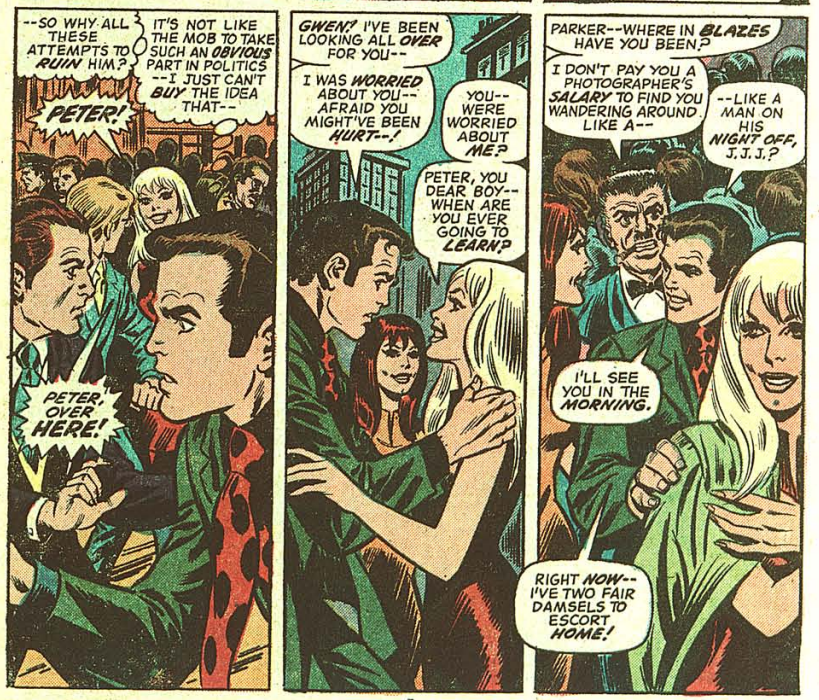

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BUT SHE'S STILL A SHE-DEVIL! GRAB YOUR COPY TODAY!

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AWSOME ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR YOU TO CONJURE WITH, PONDER OVER—AND YAWN AT!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Those of you who've been with us since the early days of Marvel have probably lost track of how many times I've hammered home the point that, unlike cigarettes, our comics are really good for you. Well, I've recently received a letter from Stephen Nazzaro at the University of Massachusetts that really lays it on the line, so take it away, Steve —

Dear Stan: Here at the University of Massachusetts, I'm co-chairperson of the Northern Educational Service Coordinating Committee. One year ago we wrote to you requesting some subscriptions to Marvel Comics for use in our tutoring program. Your comics have proven an overwhelming success as tutoring tools to each of over 300 tutors here and to all those enrolled in the program—numbering close to 1,000. Our tutors unanimously reported that when Marvel Comics were used with substandard readers or those with specific reading difficulties, their ability to pronounce syllables and understand word meanings increased greatly. But most importantly, reading your comics instilled a willingness to read in some of the more stubborn ones that was never before present! For many, this was the first time in their lives that they actually enjoyed reading. Very few of the materials in our office that were designed expressly to assist those with reading problems were as effective as Marvel Comics, or received such consistently positive endorsements. Hopefully, publicizing the ways we use Marvel Comics in our tutoring program will expose others to their potential value as learning tools.

Sincerely,
Stephen C. Nazzaro,
Co-chairperson

Of course, this doesn't mean that reading our munificent mags will turn you into a genius overnight. It could take as long as a week!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! You know how we're always saying that we like to level with you whenever humanly possible? And how we've been telling you that we've been hard-pressed to meet all our much-dreaded deadlines since the decision was made to add a bunch of new titles to the mad-cap Marvel line? Well, recently, neo-editor ROY THOMAS decided that there was one (and probably *only* one) way to meet the problem—and that is, by doing at least one *extra, fill-in* issue of virtually each and every one of our monthly mags (and maybe a few of our bi-monthlies, too, just to be on the safe side)! Still, rather than just toss them at you at random and let you think we're playing musical chairs with our artists simply for the heck of it, he and STAN decided to announce the whole policy more or less *in advance*. That way, you won't be thrown for a loss when you see a surprise guest-artist penciling your favorite strip sometime in the next few months—and besides, now you and the rest of Marveldom Assembled can have a ball trying to guess exactly who will do the inventory story in this or that mag.

Just a helpful hint or two: Occasionally the fill-in ish will be done by one of the stellar artists of our monthly line-up. More often, naturally, it'll be done by someone whose work you've glimpsed hither and yon but who *doesn't* do a regular feature for us. (And this includes a few all-time comix greats whose work you probably haven't thrilled to in a good long while!) Also, whenever possible, we intend to keep the same *writer* and *inker* on that issue, so that our far-famed Marvel continuity won't be shot to heck! Okay, we've had our say, believer! Now, just trust us when we swear we're not *really* doing this because we wanna send any of you frenetic ones off the deep end! 'Nuff said!

ITEM! Oh, and just to get things rolling: In case you haven't already guessed, that "extra" tale or twain of everybody's favorite SPIDER-MAN is the current reworking by Jazzy JOHNNY ROMITA and Merry GERRY CONWAY of the epic which originally appeared in the SPIDEY SPECTACULAR — albeit in wildly different form . . . while ROSS ANDRU has teamed up with Rascally ROY and Joltin' JOE SINNOTT to help Big JOHN BUSCEMA get ahead on the FANTASTIC FOUR! There's another shock or two lurking around this month, too — but we'll let you seek those out for yourself!

MARVELOUS MARVEL MINI-ITEMS! Hey! Anybody out there dig the Irreverent BILLY GRAHAM (Luke Cage's mighty mentor) when he M.C.'d a comedy show recently in Greenwich Village's famous *Village Gate* night club? If not — well, better luck next time! • We've already mentioned ROSS (Boss) ANDRU, but just wait'll you dig the first art-job he did as regular artist of SHANNA THE SHE-DEVIL! • Also, we're dead certain most of you haven't forgotten Rollin' CHIC STONE, who inked some of Marvel's greatest triumphs during the sizzling 60's! And now you'll be seeing more of his awesome artistry on RED WOLF and other sensational strips! Welcome back, Chickie-Baby! • You oughtta see the pile of mail we get each day congratulating us for snagging WILD BILL EVERETT once more to handle the feature he created Io, these many moons ago — none other than SUB-MARINER, what else? Now if we can just get him to make a deadline or two! • What a month this has been!! No sooner did Rascally ROY THOMAS stagger back from his West-Coast vacation (during which he was a major guest, along with California-born MIKE FRIEDRICH, at the gala SAN DIEGO COMICS CONVENTION), than Stainless STEVE ENGLEHART departed for that same golden state — and we just heard a rumor that GERRY CONWAY'S packing his bags for L.A., to boot! Sheesh! Now if somebody would just stick around long enough to write a comic-mag or two! • Here's a final teaser: In the next month or three, we've got two zingy new features to unleash upon you in already-established titles. We don't want to over-excite anybody, so we'll just whisper that their names are THONGOR OF LOST LEMURIA and WAR OF THE WORLDS! There! Does that start anybody's adrenalin pumping away? Yeah . . . we kinda thought so.

See ya.

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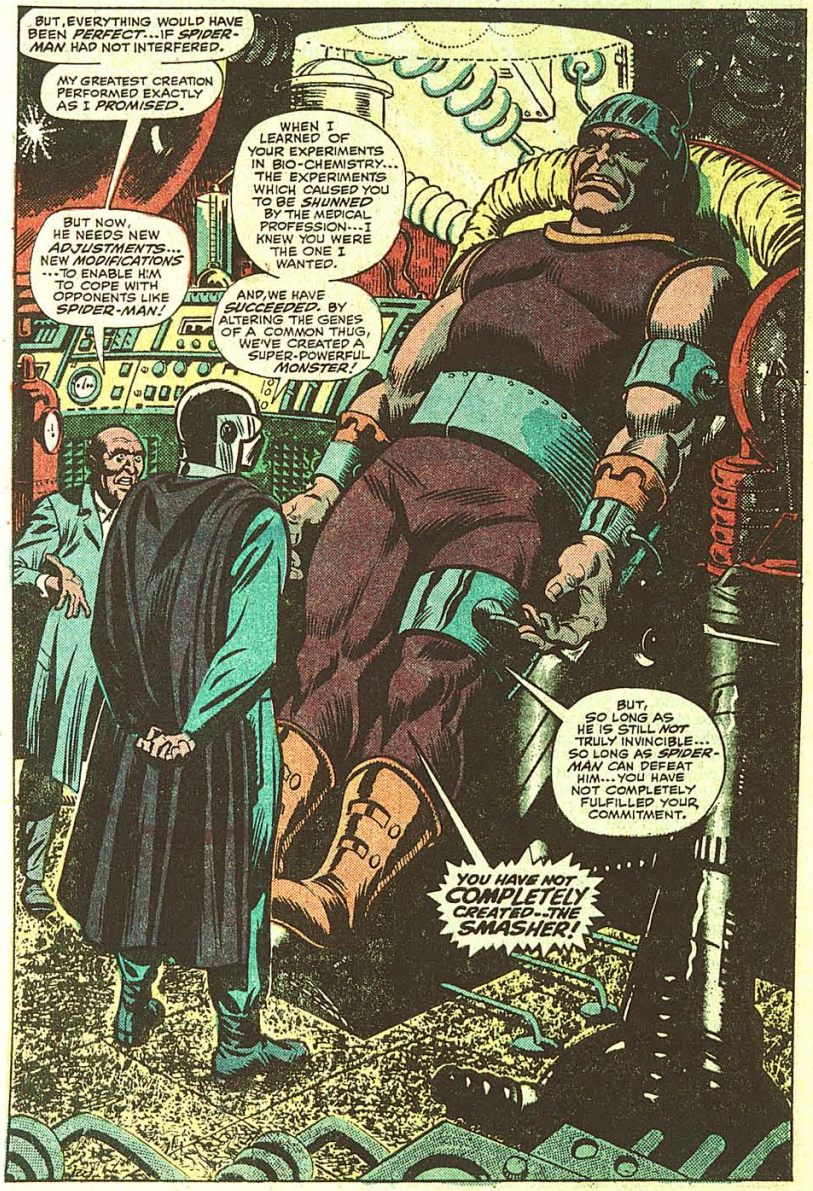

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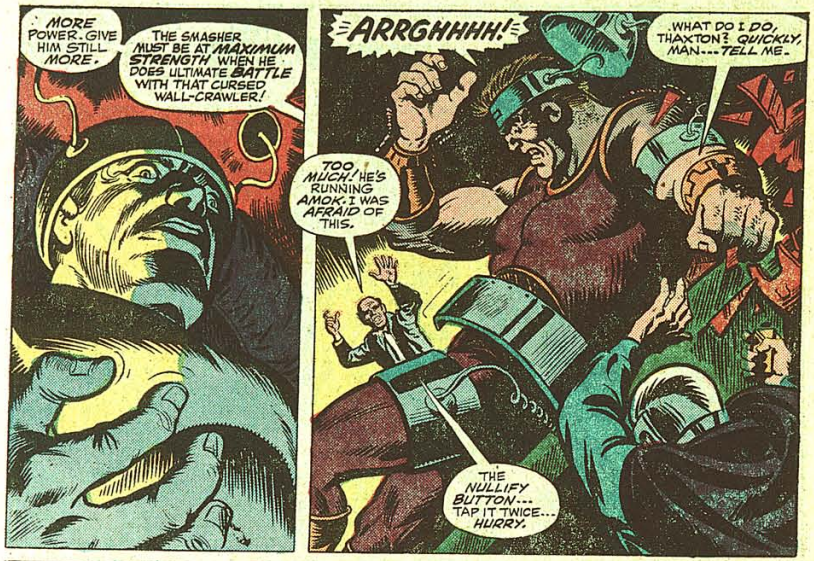

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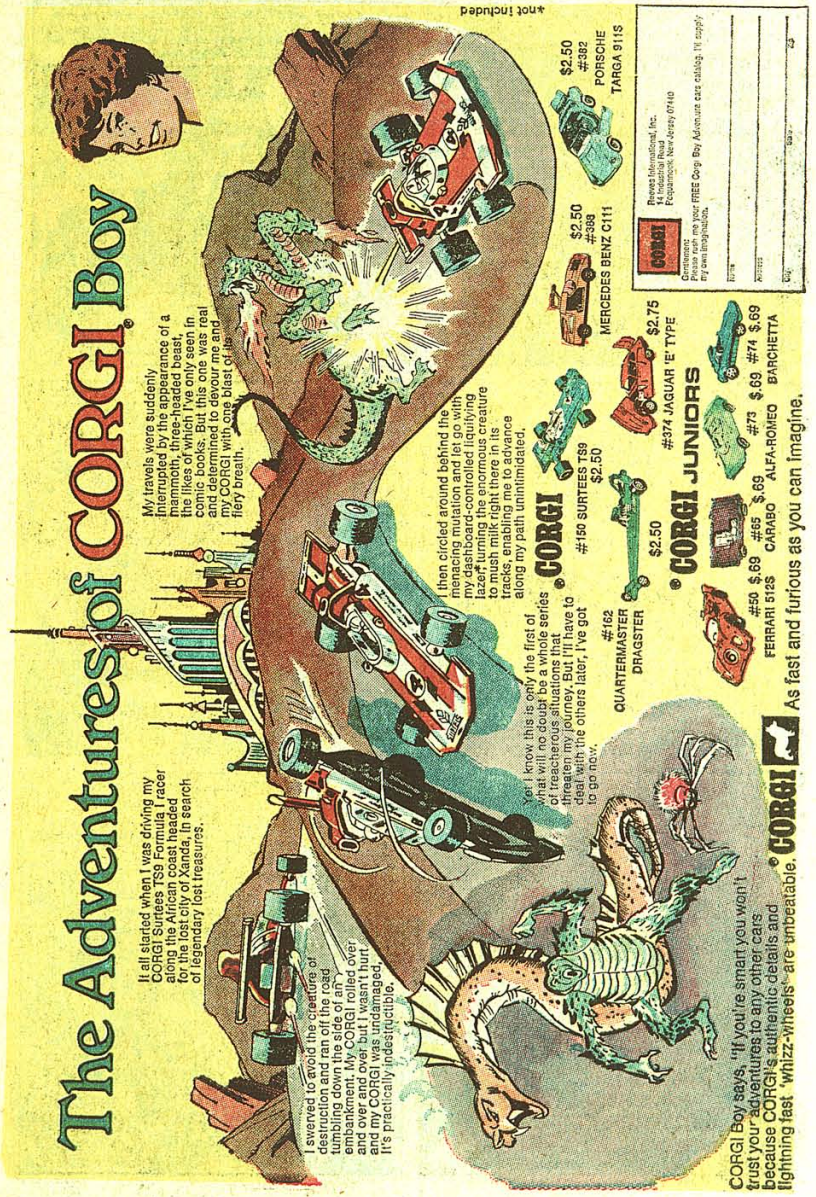

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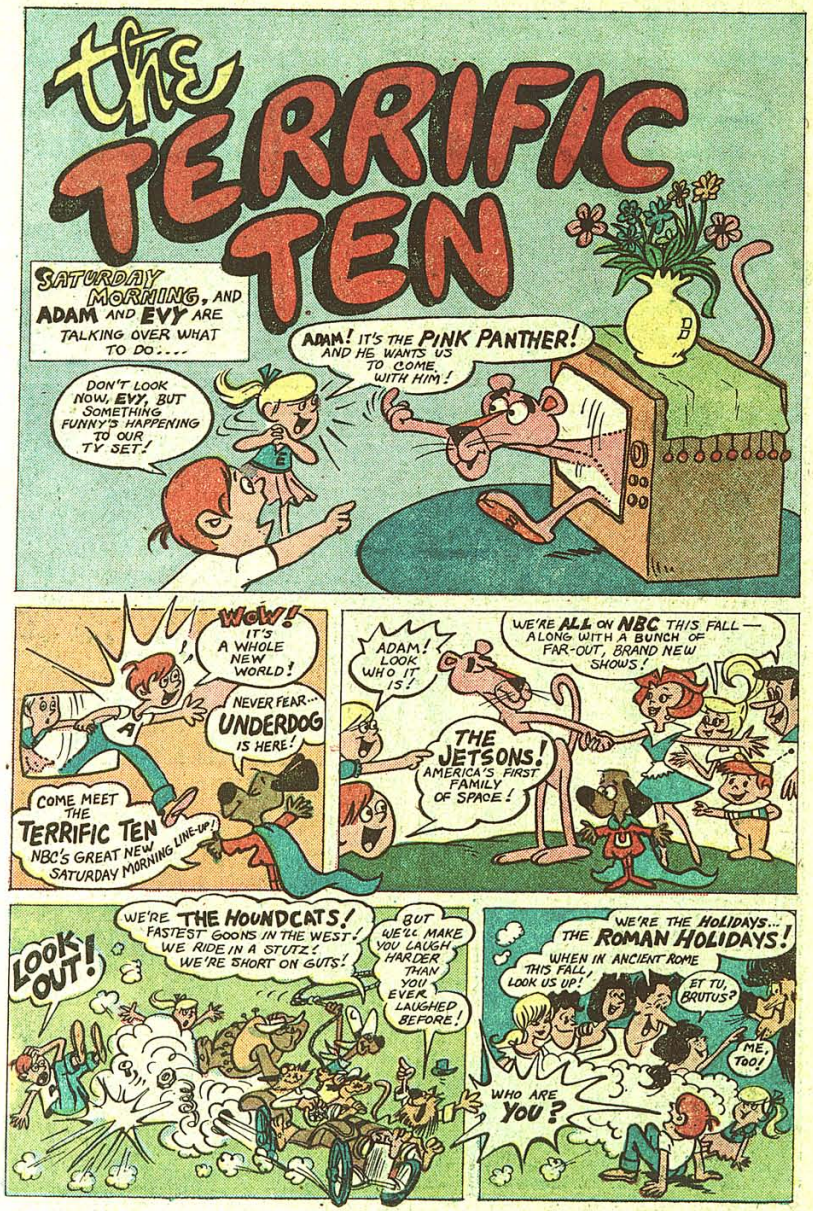

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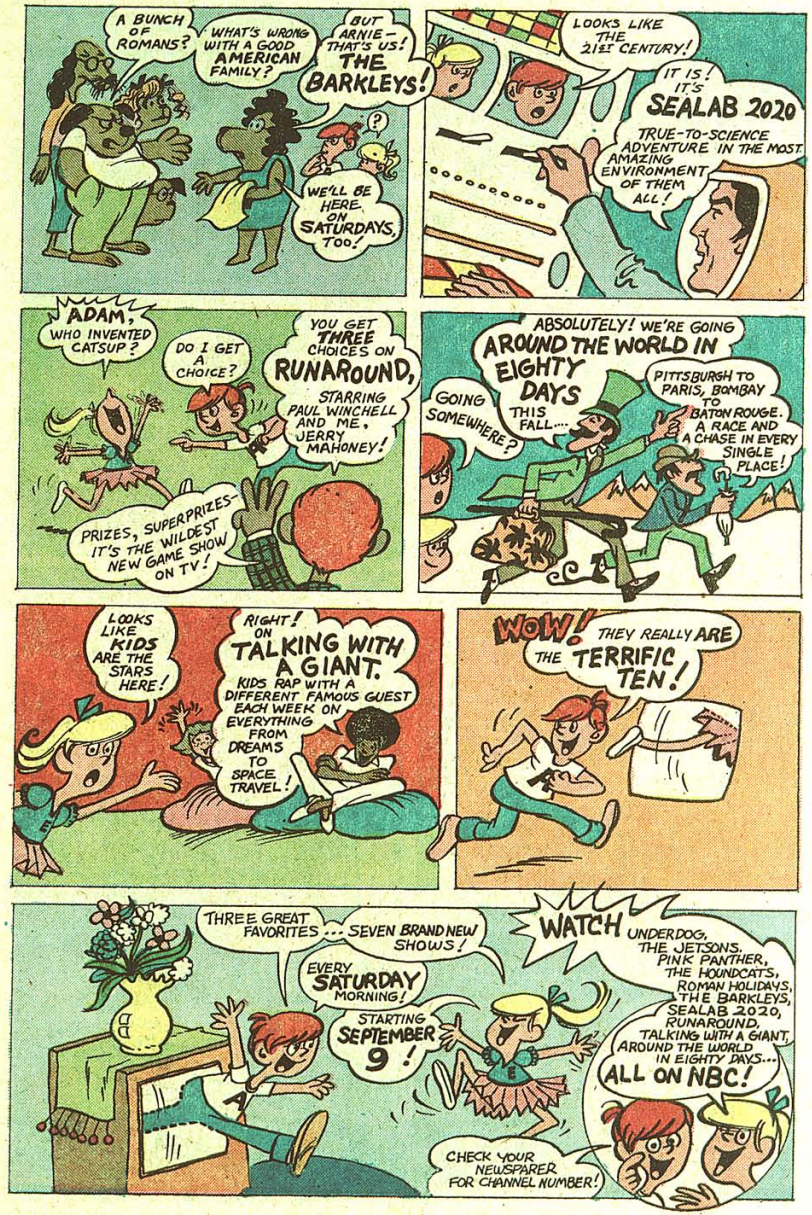

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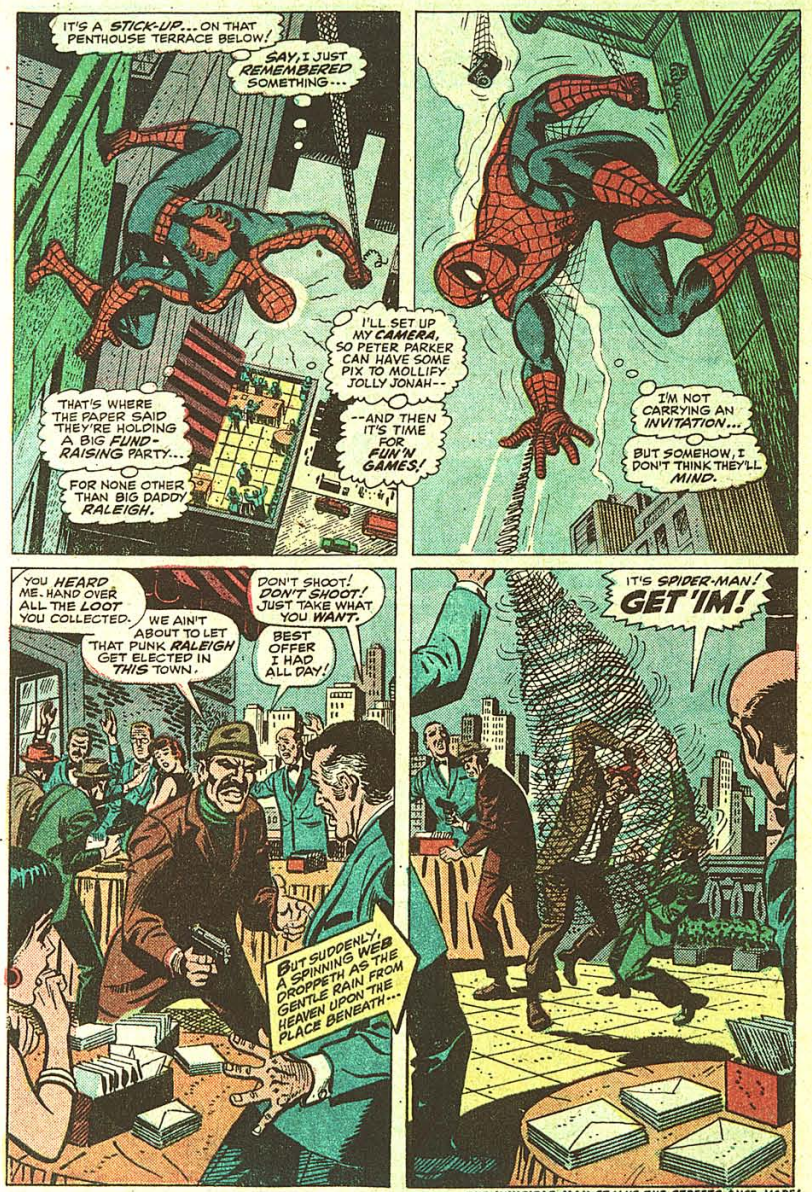

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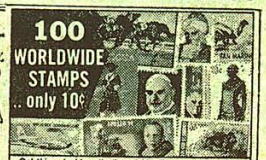

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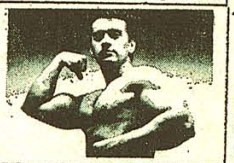

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THE SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, NINTH FLOOR 575 MADISON AV., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan, Roy and others:

First, I would like to say that Marvel comics have become the most important thing in my life. I can never get enough of them. Quite often I find myself raging at members of my family because some of the drugstores haven't gotten shipments in as soon as they were supposed to. I often send away for Marvels, because I am so fed up with the drugstores I could commit suicide. I've finally decided to get subscriptions, and that should solve all my temper problems.

Now I would like to comment about the low rank of Marveldom known as RFO. I think it should be changed to RLO (real lazy one). Three mags a month is tiddlywinks for anyone who is devoted to MARVEL. I myself buy 13 to 15 mags a month. SO THERE!!!

Matthew Carp, 4625 Maryland Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63108

Where, Matt, *where*??

Oh, well, wherever . . . thanks for your unabashedly enthusiastic note. A few more proselytizers like yourself and the world will be at our feet! (Actually, we'd be satisfied if they'd all just buy 13 to 15 mags a month.)

And, by the way, here's something weird. Our new editorial assistant, Steve Gerber, was born and bred in ol' St. Louie, and when he saw your letter, he smiled knowingly and whispered, "Pssst — tell him to try the drugstore at the corner of Millbrook and Big Bend, in the shopping center behind the pizza parlor." Howzat for service! (Anyway, it beats yelling at your family . . .)

Dear Stan, Roy, Gerry, and John,

After ten years of just buying, reading, and collecting your magazines, I have decided to toss in my two bits' worth in regard to your finest effort: SPIDER-MAN.

In those ten years, the development of Spidey has been greatly enhanced by your present artist — John Romita. In issue #113, I almost keeled over when someone by the name of J. Michael Reaves tells me that Romita can't draw Spidey! Look again, J.M.! Count that as one vote for Romita over anyone.

Conway's scripting is great. Issue #113 had a very good script. (In case you haven't figured this out yet — issue #113 was superb.)

However, not everything is quite so rosy. Assuming that we (Marvel's readership) want as close to realism as possible, I vote that Peter tell Robby Robertson, or some equally qualified person, his secret identity. If I were Spidey, I would tell the person that I could trust 100%. So would anybody. The only reason Peter hasn't before is supposedly because of Aunt May. It's the logical thing to do, and I think Peter should do it.

Now I realize that this could hurt the "problem" bit you have going for Spidey. He's still got problems, but now he won't have to bear the burden all alone. Is that what you are saying? Of course it is! Here is the solution, guys! Peter will just use Robby as a counselor; not as someone who will tell him how to do things, but rather someone who will advise him on critical decisions.

Until my collection is sold —

Michael Harrah, 4117 N.W. 31st
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112

Gee, Mike, even if you *do* sell your collection, that doesn't mean ya have to stop reading the *new* issues!!

Anyway, John and Gerry thank you for the good words. Both of those guys are heaping copious amounts of blood, sweat, and soul into their work on the strip. And, frankly, we in the Bullpen can't help thinking it shows in the mag.

On the matter of Pete revealing his secret, though . . . well, it's not in the stars just yet. However, we can virtually *guarantee* that some of the other developments in store for Spidey will truly move and shake you. In other words, web-friend, stay tuned!

Dear Stan & Roy:

Gerry Conway may just be the best thing that could happen to Spider-Man! Oh, Spidey's been developing for years, but for all too long, potential character- and plot-revelations just hung there, proposed by artist/writer, but not clearly pursued. Joltin' Gerry has the ability to give Spider-Man a definite sense of direction! (He's already done it with *DD* — taking dozens of issues of uncertain plot threads and forming the most dynamic super-hero duo today!) What's more, Gerry's strong supporting characters are perfect for Spidey!

In just this issue (#113), Gerry has:

Reintroduced Betty & Ned! (Say, did they *ever* get married?);

Taken time out for character vignettes (Robertson's family; Gwen & Harry's concern for Peter);

Given Peter his most realistic weakness yet: an ulcer! (This also revives the theme of the forces of nature conspiring against our hero — instead of his own stupidity. Keep it up!)

Shown an uncanny sense for detail with Spidey's substitute costume mask! Of *course* it wouldn't have his super-plastic one-way eye pieces, just holes for the eyes!! Brilliant!

With Roy limiting his scripting to just a few titles, it looks like Mr. Conway is fast becoming Marvel's busiest scripter. I just hope you keep Gerry on SPIDER-MAN for a long time — he has a sense of continuing subplots and action which is essential to a character like Peter!

Wally Podrazik, 2714 S. Hillock Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Wally, the collective response of Marveldom Assembled to Gerry's scripting of the wall-crawler has been excellent. Even the Merry One himself didn't expect such enthusiasm, walking into the strip as he did on the heels of a certain Smilin' Guru. But Gerry's hit his stride now — and considering that the guy is well over six feet tall, you can expect him to take major steps to keep Spidey swingin'!

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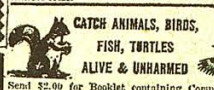

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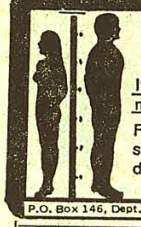

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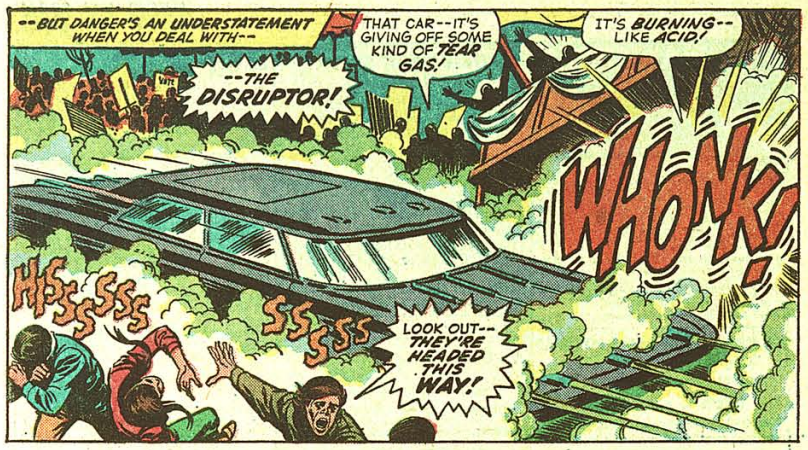

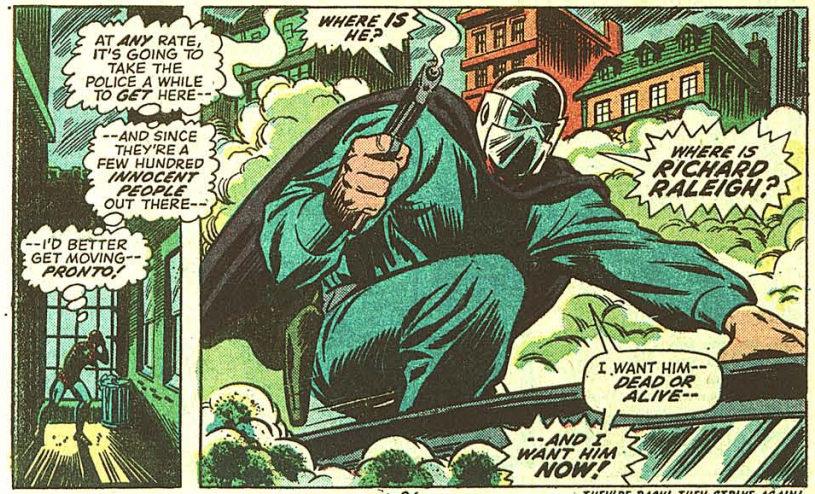

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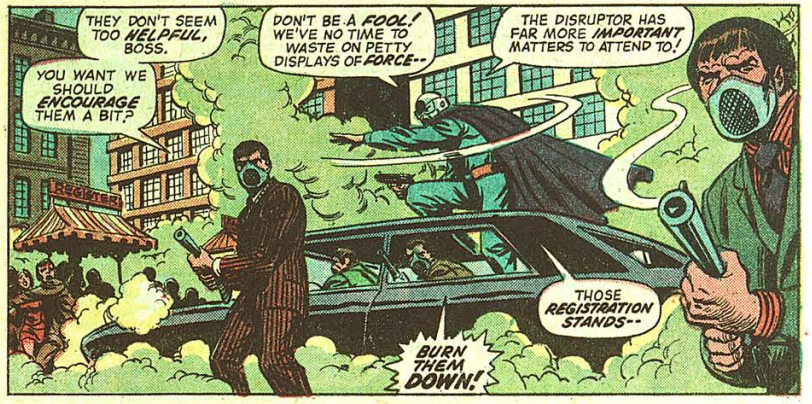

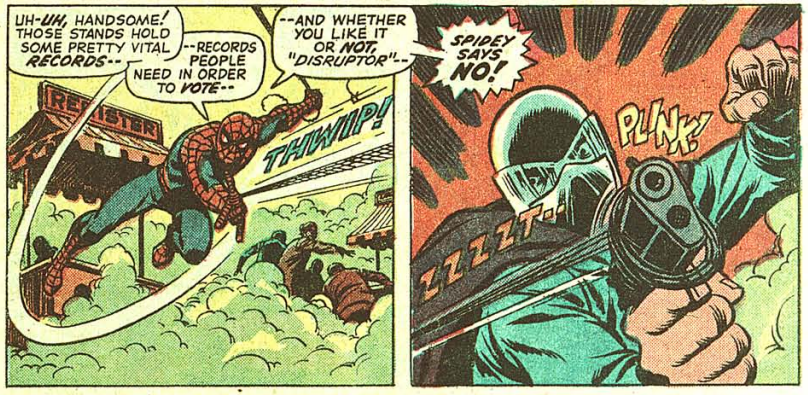

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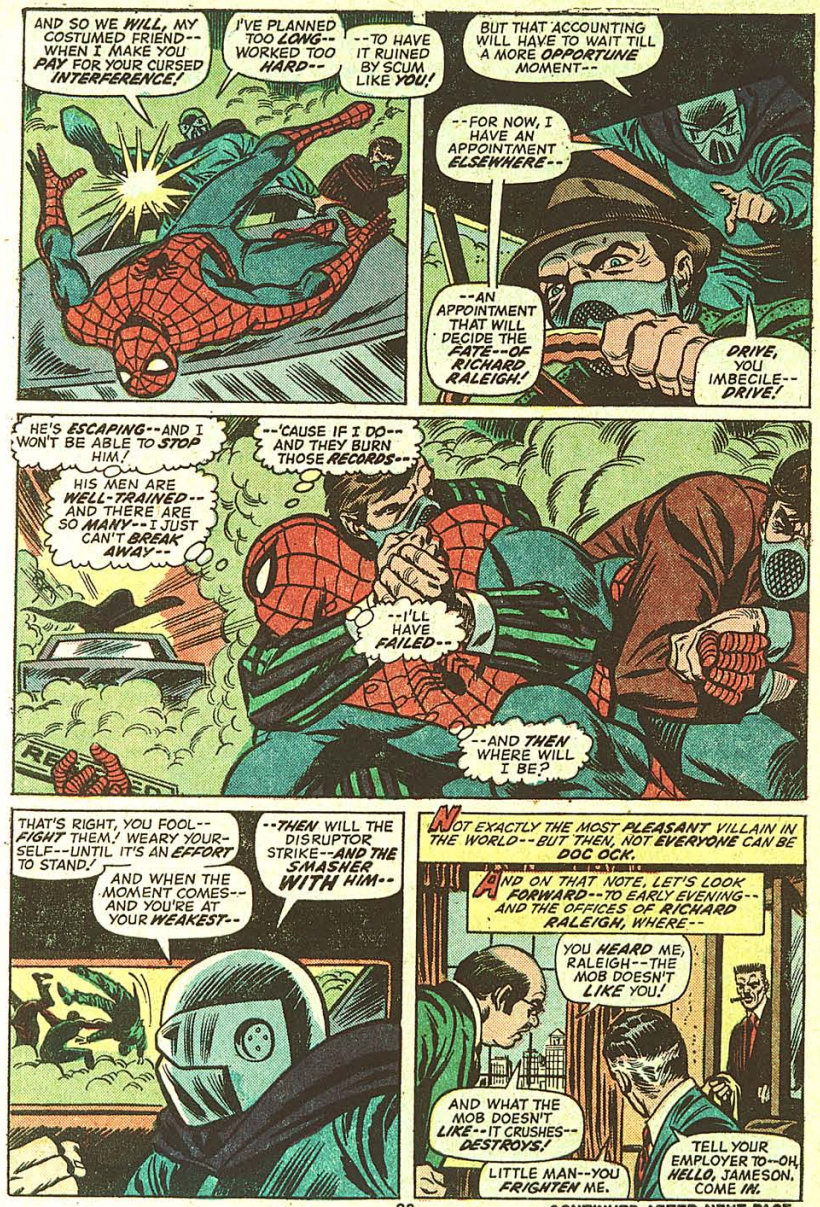

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MEN! WOMEN!... help those who can't help themselves!

Chances are, you'll spend the rest of your life working—so, shouldn't your work lead to a career you enjoy? If you love animals, there's one career that promises this kind of satisfaction and, it's easily within your reach!

Which of These ANIMAL CARE Jobs Would YOU ENJOY THE MOST?

VETERINARY ASSISTANT Work with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine or in an animal hospital. You may help care for and treat large or small animals. You may further qualify for a specialized job, such as clinical technician or assisting in surgery, anesthetics or X-ray.

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN Unlimited opportunities await the trained Veterinary Assistant in pharmaceutical laboratories, medical schools and government research facilities. Here, you may specialize in care, breeding, study or training of research animals.

ZOOKEEPER There is a growing demand for trained men and women to care for animals found in public and private zoos. If you are fascinated by wild animals, and enjoy the added spice of some danger, this can be an exciting career opportunity.

Doctors of Veterinary Medicine are overwhelmed by the growing flood of animals needing health care. This is your opportunity to combine your love for animals with a rewarding career—and work side-by-side aiding a man dedicated to helping those who can't help themselves.

PET SHOP OR KENNEL OWNER The rapid expansion of this field of business offers unusual opportunities for trained men and women to own or manage a pet shop or kennel. Your training qualifies you to give scientific care to pets you board or sell; and offer your customers the knowledgeable advice they will look to you to provide.

STUDY AT HOME IN YOUR SPARE TIME...

It's the convenient way! Many of the nation's most successful men and women began their careers with home-study courses. Home-study doesn't disrupt your life. You keep your job, you study at home in your spare time at your own pace.

Your Career Begins Here. If your present job (or the one you expect to get) promises anything less than the kind of career you deserve...do something about it! NOW! The North American School of Animal Sciences offers you practical solution to the problem of training for a new career without risking your present job or income.

MAKE YOUR MOVE NOW! We'll send you a Free "Career Kit"—as well as special forms that may help you get government assistance in financing your new career training.

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North American School of Animal Sciences, Dept. 2101C
4500 Campus Dr., Newport Beach, Ca. 92663

Rush me my "Career Kit." I am interested in:
☐ Veterinary Assistant ☐ Lab Technician ☐ Zookeeper
☐ Pet Shop or Kennel

☐ Mr.
☐ Miss
☐ Mrs.

Address.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

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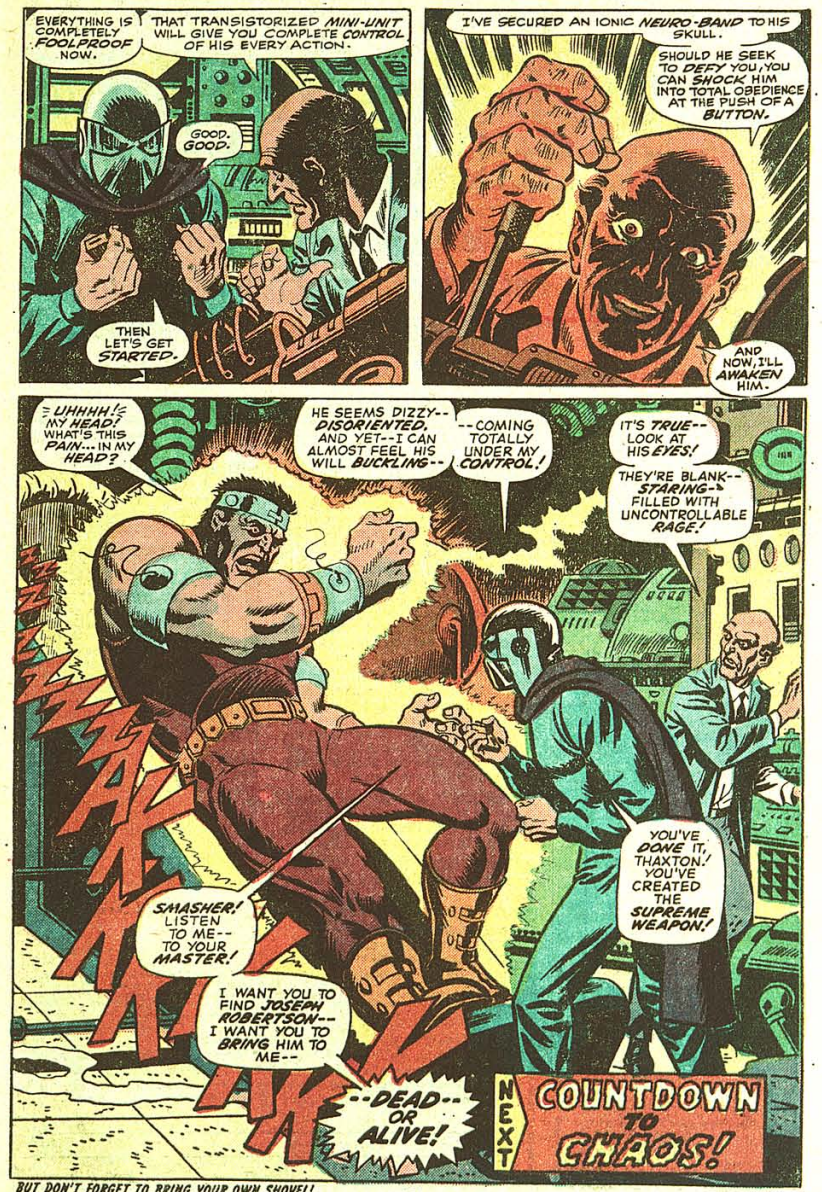

BUT DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN SHOVEL!

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Eat the Foods You Love --And Still Lose Weight!

Now for the first time, you can eat fried chicken, cheesecake, milk-shakes, and brownies—and still lose weight with the Slim-Pak Plan!

THOUSANDS DO! YOU CAN TOO! You can get slim and *stay* slim while you enjoy your favorite foods: waffles or pancakes with maple syrup! Chili! Hot muffins! Turkey with dressing! Goulash! Beef Stroganoff! Ice cream sundaes! Pot roast! Mashed potatoes and gravy! Pie with whipped creme topping!*

THE DIME-A-DAY DIET! And the Slim-Pak Plan is not only safe, easy, and effective, it costs you just a dime a day! Even less when you buy the 60 or 90 day Plan! For a Dime-a-Day, you can have the figure you'll love, be able to wear the clothes everyone will admire!

LOSE WEIGHT—'WITHOUT STARVING!' The Slim-Pak Plan is *not* a fad or crash diet; contains no dangerous drugs. Especially formulated for the dieter who has "tried everything"—and failed!

SLIM-PAK IS PERSONALIZED! Slim-Pak can work for you where other diets have failed because only your Slim-Pak Plan takes into account the foods you like to eat, your sex, your age, your height, your present weight, and what you'd like to weigh!

OVERWEIGHT FOR 14 YEARS. "I have been overweight for 14 years. Two years ago, in 3 months I lost 40 pounds. Now, another addition to the family and I once again need the assistance of Slim-Pak. The results are marvelous!"

'SO MUCH TO EAT YOU DON'T GET HUNGRY!" "Started 30 days ago...45 inch waist. Today 41 inch waist and I can bend without any trouble...everyone tells me how much better I look. Slim-Pak leaves you so much to eat you don't get hungry."

LOSES 27 POUNDS IN 60 DAYS! "I have just completed my second month of the Slim-Pak Plan. When I started I weighed 180 pounds and measured 40 inches around the waist. I now weigh 153 pounds and have a 34 inch waist."

TEENAGER LOSES POUND A DAY! "I am 16 years old and have been on the diet for 2 weeks and have lost 14 pounds. I have dieted many other times, but I have gotten the greatest satisfaction from the Slim-Pak diet. I am very seldom tired and usually do not get hungry between meals."

MOTHER LOST 37 POUNDS. "My mother weighed 175 pounds. Six months of the Slim-Pak Plan and she is down to 138. I'm sending for Slim-Pak!"

'WITHOUT NERVOUS TENSION.' "Without fear of getting off my diet or nervous tension and that empty feeling, I have lost 3½ inches from my hips—5 inches from my waist. I have lost 18 pounds."

'MIRACULOUS' SAYS LADY, 70. "I am 70 years of age and they have helped me miraculously. Besides losing weight I have gained considerable strength and desire to live."

GUARANTEED!
RESULTS GUARANTEED! These excerpts from actual letters were unsolicited. Your degree of success with the Slim-Pak Plan obviously depends on YOU, but remember: **WEIGH LESS—OR PAY NOTHING! Lose 6 to 16 pounds in the next 30 days—without ever going hungry—or money back!**

More than 10,000,000 vitamin-fortified Slim-Pak tablets have been dispensed. Based on an audit of refund records, THE SLIM-PAK PLAN HAS SATISFIED 99.1% OF ITS USERS. And Slim-Pak must satisfy *you*—or your money will be promptly refunded!

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WEIGHT LOSS GUIDE

How much weight would you like to take off—and keep off? Our records show:

People who want to lose:	Usually order:
1-11 pounds	30-day Plan
12-19 pounds	60-day Plan
Over 20 lbs.	90-day Plan

Ask your doctor about the Slim-Pak Plan first! Your Personalized Plan includes tablets that supplement food but play no role in weight loss! Registered by name, U.S. Patent Office 771541.®
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Mail No-Risk Coupon NOW!

NORTHWESTERN
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Los Angeles, California 90004

YES, I'd like to try Slim-Pak at your risk! I would like to lose 6 to 16 pounds in the next 30 days. I understand that there is a money-back guarantee that I must lose those unwanted pounds without starving, needless calorie counting, or giving up many of my favorite foods! **Please rush my Personalized Slim-Pak Kit!** It contains everything I need to take, everything I need to know, to lose weight while I enjoy three big, satisfying, vitamin-rich meals—plus snacks—every day! Please include the tablets indicated:

☐ 30-day supply—$3
☐ 60-day supply—$5 (save $1)
☐ 90-day supply—$7 (save $2)

Please add extra 50¢ for postage and handling!
☐ Send C.O.D., I enclose $1 deposit

Please complete:
☐ Male ☐ Female Age_____
I am _____feet, _____inches tall.
I now weigh _____pounds.
I would like to weigh _____pounds.

Name_____
Address_____
City_____State_____Zip_____

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Now you can take your pick of thousands of big salary jobs open to Draftsmen (see "help wanted" sections of metropolitan newspapers): Huge nationwide demand...U.S. Dept. of Labor reports "42% more Draftsmen needed in next 10 years—not enough applicants to fill drafting jobs available now!" Our easy "Quick-Learn" Method has helped hundreds toward good income, security and prestige as Draftsmen. Why not you?

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U.S. LABOR DEPT. REPORTS SERIOUS SHORTAGE OF DRAFTSMEN

(The following quotes from U. S. Labor Dept. point out nationwide shortage for Draftsmen):

"The dearth of qualified applicants has resulted in increasing calls for trainees, as employers in many areas relaxed hiring specifications. Experience requirements have been virtually eliminated, along with age barriers."

"Steadily growing employer requirements...were accompanied by marked reductions in the supply of draftsmen available."

TOP AMERICAN EMPLOYERS WELCOME NASD GRADUATES

"We would be interested in interviewing your grads as potential employees." REMINGTON

"At the present time we have several openings available for qualified Draftsmen. I look forward to considering graduates of your institution." WESTINGHOUSE

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Today's population explosion guarantees boom in building of homes, churches, schools, factories, office buildings & warehouses is just starting. Thousands Architectural Draftsmen needed NOW because drawings must be made of every part of every building before ground can be broken.

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Skyrocketing U.S. mass production requires millions of drawings & thousands of Mechanical Draftsmen all along the way. Drawings must be made of every PART of every product used in the U.S. (as well as of the machines that make these parts) before production can be started.

HERE'S WHAT STUDENTS SAY

Gets Three Raises! "Since completing my course I have been transferred from the foundry to the Engineering Department and had three raises." R. C., Ohio

Big Promotion! "18 months ago I was a laborer. Now I am foreman of 22 people in the Drafting Room. Thanks for making this possible." S. D., Mass.

Job Awaits Serviceman! "Your Drafting Course has given me a good start. I already have a job waiting for me when I leave the service." L. I., FPO, New York

"I've had 2 boosts in salary and a $300 bonus in 11 months. Wish I could shake hands with your staff in person." A. C., Calif.

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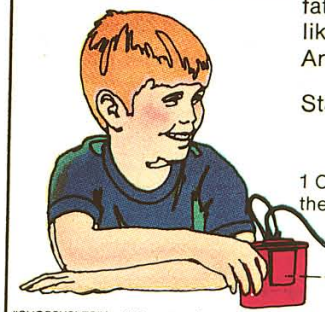

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